

# House Concurrent Resolution No. 38

## 91<sup>ST</sup> GENERAL ASSEMBLY

5094L.011

2       **Whereas**, the State of Missouri recognizes the critical importance of information  
3       technology to its government, industry, and local economy; and

4       **Whereas**, high technology has made enormous contributions to Missouri's  
5       economic growth and competitiveness; and  
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7       **Whereas**, the high technology industry is one of the most vibrant sectors of  
8       Missouri's economy, with over 3,670 high technology companies employing 21,300 Missouri  
9       residents and generating over \$1 billion in annual wages; and  
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11       **Whereas**, high technology jobs are high-paying, high-skill, dynamic, and  
12       adaptable, with the average Missouri high technology worker earning \$50,000 a year; and  
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14       **Whereas**, the positive economic impact of high technology in Missouri does not  
15       end with workers in well-paid high technology jobs, but extends to the businesses that provide  
16       goods and services to high technology companies, resulting in an overall impact of 66,100 jobs  
17       and more than \$2.4 billion in wages for Missouri residents; and  
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19       **Whereas**, software piracy represents one of the greatest threats to the continued  
20       growth of Missouri's high technology industry, with software piracy costing the Missouri  
21       economy nearly 1,900 jobs and \$80 million in wages annually; and  
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23       **Whereas**, software piracy robs \$15.1 million annually from the State of Missouri  
24 in lost tax revenues; and

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26       **Whereas**, software piracy can have a serious chilling affect on creativity,  
27 innovation, and profitability in the vital high technology sector of Missouri's economy; and

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29       **Whereas**, counterfeit and other forms of pirated software expose consumers,  
30 including state agencies, to the risk of computer viruses, reduced technical support, and other  
31 problems that prevent the efficient operation of information systems; and

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33       **Whereas**, due to the destructive impact of software piracy on the Missouri  
34 economy and consumers, the Missouri General Assembly recognizes the need to develop a  
35 comprehensive statewide response to combat the use of unlicensed software in all state agencies  
36 and promote sound management of state information systems:

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38       **Now, therefore, be it resolved** that the members of the House of  
39 Representatives of the Ninety-first General Assembly, Second Regular Session, the Senate concurring  
40 therein, hereby urge the Governor to issue an executive order that:

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42       (1) Directs each state agency to work diligently to prevent and combat computer software  
43 piracy;

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45       (2) Gives full force and effect to copyrights associated with computer software;

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47       (3) Observes all relevant provisions of federal law, including the federal copyright acts  
48 and all applicable licensing restrictions; and

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50       (4) Promotes the proper acquisition, management, and use of software by state agencies,  
51 contractors, and recipients of state funds; and

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53       **Be it further resolved** that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of  
54 Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for Governor  
55 Bob Holden.